

C.) AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (currently amended) A wild game call comprising:

a box having a base attached to substantially vertical sidewalls, the sidewalls forming an opening; and

a striking plate comprising at least one friction material and having a main body operatively connected to the box to form a ~~which forms the top of the box, the striking plate comprised of at least one~~ the at least one friction material ~~and having~~ being disposed on a top striking surface of the striking plate, the top striking surface being configured to be used with a striker, [[a]] the main body which is being substantially coextensive with the sidewalls[[,]] and comprising a protruding portion ~~having a top surface and a bottom surface which is being disposed~~ adjacent to[[,]] the opening and being configured to extend ~~which extends~~ over and beyond[[,]] the opening.

2. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 1, wherein the protruding portion comprises a bottom surface and wherein the bottom surface of the protruding portion is a bottom striking surface.

3. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 1, wherein a ~~the~~ thickness of the striking plate varies over a ~~the~~ length of the plate.

4. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 3, wherein a ~~the~~ thickest portion of the striking plate is adjacent a ~~the~~ sidewall opening.

5. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 4, wherein a ~~[[the]]~~ thickness of the protruding portion of the striking plate narrows gradually to form a thin unsecured end.

6. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 2, wherein the striking plate ~~is comprised of~~ comprises a plurality of friction materials.

7. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 6, wherein the plurality of friction materials are arranged such that one friction material provides ~~[[the]]~~ an entire ~~striking~~ top striking surface.

8. (original) The wild game call of claim 6, wherein the plurality of friction materials are arranged such that each friction material provides at least a portion of the top striking surface.

9. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 1, wherein the striking plate is further comprised of at least one hollow or semi-hollow structure which extends along at least a portion of a ~~[[the]]~~ length of the striking plate.

10. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 9, wherein the at least one structure comprises at least one groove in ~~[[the]]~~ a bottom surface of the striking plate.

11. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 10, wherein a ~~[[the]]~~ shape of the at least one groove is selected from the group consisting of: rectangular, v-shaped, and rounded.

12. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 9, wherein the at least one structure is comprised of at least one channel ~~channels~~ in the striking plate.

13. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 12, wherein a [[the]] shape of [[the]] at least one channel is selected from the group consisting of: triangular prism, rectangular prism, and cylinder.

14. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 9, wherein [[the]] at least one channel is entirely enclosed within the striking plate.

15. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 9, wherein [[the]] at least one channel is comprised of at least one open end.

16. (currently amended) The wild game call of claim 6, wherein the plurality of friction materials are arranged such that one friction material provides the entire ~~striking~~ bottom striking surface.

17. (original) The wild game call of claim 6, wherein the plurality of friction materials are ~~arranged such that each friction material provides~~ disposed to form at least a portion of the bottom striking surface.

18. (original) The wild game call of claim 1, wherein a sidewall comprises an aperture ~~is present within a sidewall~~.

19. (original) The wild game call of claim 1, wherein a material selected from

the group consisting of galvanized steel, sand, weather resistant thermoplastic, and combinations thereof is embedded in the striking plate.

20. (new) A wild game call comprising:

a box, the box comprising:

a base attached to substantially vertical sidewalls, the sidewalls forming an opening; and

a striking plate comprising a main body and a protruding portion, the main body being substantially coextensive with the sidewalls and having a top striking surface on a top exterior surface of the box comprising at least one friction material, the top exterior surface being configured to be used with a striker, the protruding portion being disposed adjacent to the opening and being configured to extend over and beyond the opening.

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D.) AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

None.